

HOUSE BILL 354

By Winningham

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 15, Part 1; Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 7 and Title 8, Chapter 4, relative to criminal justice infrastructure.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Criminal Justice Infrastructure Improvement Fund Act".

SECTION 2.

(a) There is created a special account in the state treasury to be known as the "Criminal Justice Infrastructure Improvement Fund", hereinafter referred to as the "criminal justice fund".

(b)

(1) Moneys in the criminal justice fund shall be used exclusively to provide grants to counties or cities for court ordered, or statutorily mandated, new construction, or renovation of, county criminal justice centers including, but not limited to, jails and workhouses.

(2) Grants shall be available to qualified applicants in any area of the state. Grants may be awarded to a county, a city or any combination of county and city governments applying jointly.

(3) The state building commission shall establish criteria for the criminal justice infrastructure grant program. The building commission shall award such grants from funds then available in the criminal justice fund.

(4) All grant recipients are subject to audit by the comptroller of the treasury as to the funds received pursuant to this section.

(c)

(1) In addition to appropriations made by the general assembly to the criminal justice fund, the state treasurer may accept other funds, public or private, by way of gift or grant to the fund. Any such gift or grant shall be deposited into the criminal justice fund to be distributed in accordance with the provisions of this act.

(2) Moneys in the criminal justice fund may be invested by the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of § 9-4-603.

(3) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, interest accruing on investments and deposits of the criminal justice fund shall be credited to such fund, shall not revert to the general fund, and shall be carried forward into the subsequent fiscal year.

(4) Any balance remaining unexpended at the end of a fiscal year in the criminal justice fund shall not revert to the general fund but shall be carried forward into the subsequent fiscal year.

SECTION 3. The provisions of this act shall not be construed to be an appropriation of funds and no funds shall be obligated or expended pursuant to this act unless such funds are specifically appropriated by the general appropriations act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.